

Application No.: 09/997,356

Docket No.: JCLA7611

REMARKS**Present Status of Patent Application**

Claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-20 remain pending, of which claims 1 and 11 have been amended to more clearly define the invention. Support for the amendments to claims can be found on page 6, lines 22-23. It is believed that no new matter adds by way of these amendments made to the claims, or otherwise to the application. For at least the following reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-20 patentably define over the prior art of record. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Response to Claims Rejections under 35 USC§102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as being anticipated by Matsuoka et al. (US-6,104,451).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

In rejecting claim 1, the Office Action stated that Matsuoka discloses a back cap 140 having a planar outer surface, the back cap 140 covering the back housing wherein the back cap 140 includes a metallic material.

Applicants respectfully disagree with Examiner's interpretation of Matsuoka and respectfully submit that Matsuoka cannot anticipate Claim 1 because Matsuoka substantially fails to disclose to teach every features of a liquid crystal display monitor as recited in claim 1. More specifically, the liquid crystal display monitor of claim 1 comprises "a back cap, having generally planar outer surface, covering the back housing, wherein the back cap includes a metallic material and the back housing is located between the back cap and the LCD panel", as required by the amended Claim 1. Matsuoka discloses a bottom frame (case) 140, which is deemed equivalent to the back cap of the claimed invention by the Office Action. However, bottom frame 140 is directly facing the LCD panel, in fact, it covers the back surface of the LCD panel 120, and the

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bottom case 140 is covered by a second enclosure (back housing) 221. Col. 12, lines 38-44, 60-65, and Figs. 1, 4, and 6b. In other words, the back housing in Matsuoka is not located between the back cap and the LCD, instead the back cap 140 is located between the back housing 220 and LCD panel 100. This difference is technically significant because the back cap of the present invention is exposed or at most covered by a transparent film and, therefore, its esthetic appearance is viewable from outside. While the bottom frame 140 is blocked at least by back housing 220 and cannot be viewed from outside.

Further, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to specify that "the second surface (of the LCD panel) has a portion for installing back light and reflector" which further defines from the Matsuoka patent. Matsuoka does not teach or suggest such features. In that, Matsuoka discloses in col. 12, lines 60-64, that the bottom case 140 has a bottom wall in which a plurality of fluorescent lamps are installed.

Further, because Matsuoka teaches installing the fluorescent light source on the surface of the bottom case 140, the back housing cannot possibly be placed between the bottom case 140 and the LCD panel 100 without destroying the structural identity and the mode of operation of Matsuoka' patent. In other words, the bottom case 140 of Matsuoka cannot possibly be equivalent to the back cap of the claimed invention.

For at least the above reasons, claim 1 cannot be anticipated by Matsuoka. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested. Claims 2-3 and 5-10 depend from claim 1. Therefore, for at least the same reasons, claims 2-3 and 5-10 are not anticipated.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Matsuoka cannot possibly anticipate the claimed invention in this regard.

In rejecting claim 11, the Office Action stated that Matsuoka discloses on Fig. 2 a back cap 1020 suitable for use in an LCD monitor and the back cap of the LCD screen comprising a plate body, the plate body 140 having an outer surface being generally planar.

The amended claim 11 recites a plate body having an outer surface being planar which is viewable from outside. The planar surface of the plate body 140 of Matsuoka is covered by a back housing and is not viewable from outside. Further, Claim 11, as

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amended, includes features similar to Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants similarly submit that Claim 11 is not anticipated by Matsuoka and should be allowed.

Further, because Claims 12-13 and 15-20 depend from independent claim 11, for at least the same reasons, claims 12-13 and 15-20 are not anticipated by Matsuoka either. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

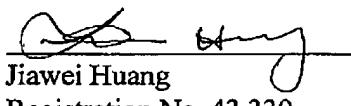
Further, Matsuoka in col. 14, lines 60-65, discloses that it is possible to reduce the amount of electromagnetic waves passing through the gap by making the size of the gap equal to the size of the small holes formed in the shield panel. Therefore, it is clearly indicative that Matsuoka substantially fails to teach that a metallic back cap could protect the LCD panel from electromagnetic interference. In fact, Matsuoka substantially teaches away from the claimed invention in this regard.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all pending claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-20 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,
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